

Dear Co-chairs, Vice-Chairs, and members of the Housing Committee:

I am writing in support of SB 292, and SB 295. I am a member of 350 CT and the Connecticut Climate Crisis Mobilization, although I am writing as an individual. I am also a resident and homeowner in New Haven.

In relation to SB 292: There is a saying: When you are in a hole, stop digging. We, in CT, the United States, and the world, are in a hole in relation to meeting our goals to reduce greenhouse gases in time to avoid massive catastrophe from climate change. We did not move soon enough over the last 35 years, and we are not moving fast enough now. What SB 292 will do, by requiring that all new buildings and buildings with major renovation no longer use fossil fuels or inefficient electric resistance heat, is to stop digging an even deeper hole of even more housing that will add to the burden of buildings that must be electrified and converted to renewable sources of electricity in order to stop polluting the air and putting out greenhouse gases. We should have done this years ago, and we should certainly do it now.

In relation to SB 295: I support SB 295, Tax Credits for Energy Efficient Homes — This will encourage builders to make sure that newly constructed homes to be energy efficient from the start, and offset any costs of designing and building the homes the way all new homes should be built.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony.

Kimberly Stoner, New Haven